

COOPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

77. Reports were received from CCAMLR observers attending the 1985 Meetings of the International Whaling Commission, the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, and the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research.

78. Attention was drawn to Recommendation XIII-2 of the XIIIth Meeting of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties which, if adopted before the XIVth Treaty meeting to be held in Brazil in October 1987, would result in the Chairman of CCAMLR being invited to submit a report of CCAMLR activities at that meeting. The Commission agreed that it was desirable to improve communication between CCAMLR and the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties and that the Chairman should accept an invitation to submit such a report.

79. The Commission considered the pending request from the Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition (ASOC) to attend the meeting as an observer. In this regard, the Executive Secretary had received a letter from ASOC, dated 10 June 1986, which addressed a number of the concerns which had been expressed by Members of the Commission at its previous annual meeting (paragraph 48 of the Report of the Fourth Meeting of the Commission).

80. Discussion of the matter revealed a widespread view that there existed a basis for proceeding to conclude an agreement with ASOC provided that certain clarifications were obtained from ASOC regarding its relationship to its member organisations. Notwithstanding this view, there was objection to moving toward such an agreement and therefore consensus could not be achieved.

81. In these circumstances, several Members of the Commission suggested that the question of ASOC's attendance at the Sixth Meeting of the Commission be decided, on an *ad hoc* basis, in advance of that meeting. There was no objection to this proposal. Therefore, the Executive Secretary was directed to circulate to the Members of the Commission, along with the preliminary agenda for the Sixth Meeting of the Commission, a proposal that ASOC be invited to attend the meeting as an observer. A decision on the proposal would then be taken by Commission Members pursuant to Rule 7 of the Rules of Procedure.

82. The Executive Secretary was further directed to communicate the above information to ASOC, as well as offer the organisation the opportunity to complete responses to questions raised in previous correspondence from the Commission. A number of Commission Members felt that any such additional information from ASOC would be of assistance in determining their positions on the proposal to invite ASOC to attend the next annual meeting.

83. It was also noted that the Commission should continue to examine the issue of how interested representative ‘umbrella organisations’ could contribute to the work of the Commission.

84. The Australian delegation expressed its view that a positive decision to associate ASOC with the work of the Commission should be reached before the next annual session.